Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 NAPLES 00712 241219Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
TRSE-00 MCT-01 HA-05 /072 W
----------039320 241534Z /64
R 181015Z APR 78
FM AMCONGEN NAPLES IT
TO AMEMB ROME IT
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6009
USDOCOSOUTH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NAPLES 712
USDOOSOUTHFOR INTAF
E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, IT
SUBJECT: CALABRIAN POLITICIANS COMMENT ON MAY ADMINISTRATIVE ELECTIONS

REF: ROME 5462
1. BRIEF CONOFF TRIP TO CALABRIAN PROVINCIAL CAPITALS (COSENZA, CATANZARO AND REGGIO CALABRIA) PROVIDED AN OPPORTUNITY FOR PRELIMINARY SAMPLING OF LOCAL POLITICAL OPINIONS ON MAY 14 ADMINISTRATIVE ELECTIONS AND CONTENT REFTEL. INDIVIDUALS CONTACTED INCLUDED MAYORS AND OTHER GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AS WELL AS PARTY REPRESENTATIVES. THEY WERE PRIMARILY DC OR PSI. SOMEWHAT CONSOLIDATED OPINIONS

PAGE 02 RUFRSGG4293 C O N F I D E N T I A L
FOLLOW.
2. ALL THOSE QUERIED CONSIDERED AN ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN UNDER PRESENT POLITICAL CONDITIONS TO BE AWKWARD. THEY STRESSED THAT MAY 14 ELECTIONS IN CALABRIA PRIMARILY INVOLVE SMALL TOWNS (NO PROVINCIAL CAPITALS) AND LOCAL ISSUES; THEREFORE THEY NEED NOT BE HIGHLY CHARGED POLITICALLY. YET IN THOSE TOWNS WITH 20,000 OR MORE INHABITANTS PARTY COMPETITION WILL BE VIGOROUS. CITY OFFICIALS AND PARTY
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 NAPLES 00712 241219Z

REPRESENTATIVES AGREED THAT SHARP IDEOLOGICAL POLEMIC SHOULD AND WOULD BE AVOIDED BUT DISTINCT PARTY POSITIONS REITERATED. THEY WERE ALL OF THE OPINION THAT THE DC WILL GAIN ON MAY 14 BECAUSE OF THE MORO KIDNAPPING AND PUBLIC ORDER ISSUE. IN SPITE OF ITS EFFORTS PCI NOT YET SEEN AS THE PARTY OF LAW AND ORDER. PARTY SYMBOLS AND HISTORICAL BAGGAGE CANNOT BE SCRAPPED AT WILL. PCI NOT EXPECTED TO GAIN. ONE REPUBLICAN PROVINCIAL SECRETARY AND A DC MAYOR, HOWEVER, FEARED

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

THAT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE MORO CASE (DIVISION IN GOVERNMENT, AMONG THE PARTIES, SENSATIONAL REVELATIONS, OTHER SHOCKS) MIGHT OCCUR IN A WAY AND WITH A TIMING TO ADVERSELY AFFECT THE DC VOTE TO PCI ADVANTAGE.
3. PSI STRATEGY AS DESCRIBED BY PROVINCIAL SECRETARIES SEEMED INCONSISTENT. CALABRIAN PSI OFFICIALS TOLD CONOFF THAT DC GAINS IN

PAGE 03 RUFRSGG4293 C O N F I D E N T I A L
LARGER CITIES LIKE CROTONE (54,000) WOULD ENABLE THE PSI TO PULL OUT OF LEFTIST ADMINISTRATIONS AND JOIN THE DC IN NEW CENTER-LEFT ARRANGEMENTS. PSI OFFICIALS ALSO EXPRESSED UNHAPPINESS AT PCI ATTEMPTS TO DOMINATE LEFTIST CITY GIUNTAS WITH OR WITHOUT SOCIALIST MAYORS. HOWEVER, THE COSENZA PSI SECRETARY (WHO WAS IN MAY 14 STRATEGY SESSION WITH PCI COUNTERPART AS CONOFF MADE CALL) NOTED THAT PCI AND PSI HAD AGAIN AGREED TO JOIN TOGETHER IN TOWNS WITH UNDER 5,000 INHABITANTS (NOT PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION) IN ORDER TO COMPETE WITH DC CANDIDATES. PSI OFFICIALS FELT THAT THEIR PARTY WOULD DO WELL IN ADMINISTRATIVE ELECTIONS IN CALABRIA BECAUSE THE PSI MAYORS IN ALMOST ONE THIRD OF CALABRIAN TOWNS GENERALLY ARE CONSIDERED "GOOD ADMINISTRATORS" AND BECAUSE THEY FELT THE TURIN CONGRESS IMPROVED PARTY IMAGE.
4. IN SUM CALABRIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND PARTY OFFICIALS WERE OF THE OPINION THAT, IRRESPECTIVE OF LOCAL NATURE OF ADMINISTRATIVE ELECTIONS, THE DC WILL ADVANCE POLITICALLY ON MAY 14 AND AS DIRECT RE-
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 NAPLES 00712 241219Z

SULT OF MOROIDNAPPING/PUBLIC ORDER PROBLEM. SOME SAY DC FAITHFUL,AT LEAST TEMPORARILY, REVITALIZED AND WILLING TO BE COUNTED IN THE PIAZZA EVEN WHERE DC PRESENCE HAD RECENTLY BEEN HARD TO DETECT. PSI OFFICIALS VISUALIZED POSSIBLE SHIFT FROM THE CURRENT SUPPORT FOR

PAGE 04 RUFRSGG4293 C O N F I D E N T I A L
LEFTIST GIUNTAS IN SOME TOWNS TO CENTER-LEFT ARRANGEMENTS BASED ON DC GAINS AND PSI CONGRESS. YET PSI TACTICAL ALLIANCE WITH PCI TO PREVENT DC DOMINATION OF SMALL TOWNS WILL APPARENTLY CONTINUE.
5. REGARDING OTHER QUESTIONS RAISED REFTEL, LOCAL CALABRIAN POLITICIANS CONSIDER PRIME MINISTER ANDREOTTI VERY CAPABLE. FOR SOME THIS MEANS "SLY AND MANIPULATIVE", WHILE FOR OTHERS HIS CAPABILITY APPROACHES "STATEMANSHIP". ATTITUDES TOWARD THIS GOI WERE MIXED. IN REGGIO FOR EXAMPLE, THE DC AND OTHERS EXPRESSED LITTLE CONFIDENCE IN ANDREOTTI GOVERNMENT'S ABILITY TO RESOLVE TOUGH ECONOMIC/SOCIAL ISSUES BUT MOST FELT SOMETHING COULD BE DONE TO IMPROVE LAW ENFORCEMENT. NO ONE CONSIDERED A NATIONAL EMERGENCY GOVERNMENT THE ANSWER TO ITALY'S SEVERAL CRISES. THAT KIND OF CAMPAIGN WILL NOT ORIGINATE IN THE SOUTH. COLANTONIO.

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

NOTE BY OC/T: MESSAGE DELAYED IN TRANSMISSION.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ELECTIONS, POLITICAL PARTIES, COMMUNISTS, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978NAPLES00712
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780174-0824
Format: TEL
From: NAPLES
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780445/aaaabmal.tel
Line Count: 117
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b88f07ac-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 ROME 5462
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2933765
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CALABRIAN POLITICIANS COMMENT ON MAY ADMINISTRATIVE ELECTIONS
TAGS: PINT, IT
To: ROME
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b88f07ac-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014